

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 962

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E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAID, NG

SUBJ: TARA PROJECT--FARLEY WINSON

FOR AF/W BISHOP AND AID AFR/CWR

REF: HECK-BISHOP CORRESPONDENCE ON TARA PROJECT, NIGER

1. FARLEY WINSON'S DREAM PROJECT HAS FALLEN APART AS
A RESULT OF GON DECISION TO BRING TARA FARM UNDER
GOVERNMENT CONTROL. HE HAS ACCORDINGLY DECIDED TO LEAVE
NIGER WITH HIS FAMILY AND SETTLE ELSEWHERE POSSIBLY IN
BELIZE, HONDURAS WHERE HE HAS SOME PROPERTY. THIS LEAVES
LILLY FOUNDATION AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS TO PROJECT OUT
IN LEFT FIELD AND UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED.

2. DEAN FREUDENBERGER OF UNITED METHODIST MISSION, OUT
HERE AS TROUBLE SHOOTER ON BEHALF OF LILLY FOUNDATION,
HAS JUST COMPLETED SURVEY OF SITUATION AND HAS SUBMITTED
FULL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO CHARLES WILLIAMS OF
LILLY FOUNDATION IN INDIANA. WE HAVE NOT SEEN THE REPORT
BUT WE UNDERSTAND IT URGES LILLY FOUNDATION: 1) NOT TO
OVERREACT TO LATEST DEVELOPMENT; 2) TO ACCEPT GON
ENTRY INTO PICTURE WHICH ACTUALLY IS LOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT IF TARA PROJECT IS TO FIT INTO
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY; AND 3) BECAUSE OF
LONG-RANGE POTENTIAL OF TARA PROJECT TO ENTER INTO
CORRESPONDENCE WITH GON TO LEARN WHAT ROLE LILLY
FOUNDATION MIGHT PLAY IN TARA'S TRANSITION FROM
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PRIVATE TO PUBLIC PROJECT. IN LONG RUN FREUDENBERGER

FEELS LILLY FOUNDATION SHOULD SWITCH FROM SUPPORT OF
SUCH PROJECTS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND TO PROVIDE
NIGERIENS WITH TRAINING FOR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.

3. IN TELCON EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH CHARLES WILLIAMS,
HE SAID HE WAS CONSIDERING VISITING NIGER. SHOULD HE
CALL DEPARTMENT RECOMMEND YOU URGE THAT HE NOT RPT NOT
CONSIDER A VISIT HERE UNTIL HE HAS DIGESTED FREUDENBEBER
REPORT. FHI VISIT AT THIS TIME WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL
PURPOSE AND WOULD PROBABLY IRRITATE GON OFFICIALS.
END FYI. IF YOU RECEIVE INQUIRIES FROM OTHER SOURCES
REGARDING STATUS OF PROJECT RECOMMEND YOU TAKE LINE
THAT GON HAS DECIDED BRING PROJECT UNDER ITS WING WHICH
IS NORMAL DEVELOPMENT AND ANY INQUIRIES REGARDING PROJECT
SHOULD HENCEFORTH BE ADDRESSED TO GON MINISTER OF RURAL
ECONOMY WHICH HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECT.HECK

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